

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HAVANA 02225 012210Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ACDA-10 IO-06 EUR-08 PM-03  
DODE-00 L-01 H-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SP-02  
NSC-05 OES-02 /068 W  
-----037452 012235Z /64

P R 012036Z AUG 78  
FM USINT HAVANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2701  
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 2225

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM CCD UK UR  
SUBJ: CUBAN MEMBERSHIP IN COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD)  
  
REF: STATE 191007

1. REFTTEL, WHICH HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED IN HAVANA, INDICATES THAT WHILE US MAY HAVE TO ACCEPT CUBA IN CD AS PART OF PACKAGE TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL BALANCE SATISFACTORY TO SOVIETS, THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT THAT OUR FAVORED LATIN AMERICAN CANDIDATE IS VENEZUELA. WHILE UNDERSTANDING BOTH BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDERLYING THIS CHOICE, USINT WONDERS WHETHER WE MIGHT NOT USE- FULLY RECONSIDER OUR POSTURE ON THIS MATTER.

2. WHILE CUBA WOULD CLEARLY TAKE A SOVIET LINE IN CD, WE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT CUBA'S POSTURE, HERETOFORE, ON ARMS CONTROL HAS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HAVANA 02225 012210Z

BEEN FAR WORSE THAN THAT OF SOVIETS. FOR EXAMPLE, OF NINE MAJOR MULTILATERAL ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS NOW IN FORCE, SOVIETS (AFTER ADHERENCE TO TLATELOLCO PROTOCOL II) WILL BE SIGNATORIES OR PARTIES TO ALL NINE, WHILE CUBANS WILL BE SIGNATORIES OR PARTIES TO ONLY THREE (ONE OF WHICH, THE GENEVA PROTOCOL, DATES FROM 1925). (FYI IN ADDITION TO GENEVA PROTOCOL, CUBANS ARE SIGNATORIES ONLY TO THE BIOLOGICAL

WEAPONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTIONS. THEY HAVE NOT SIGNED ANTARCTIC TREATY, LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY, OUTER SPACE TREATY, TREATY OF TLAHELCO, NPT, OR SEABED TREATY. END FYI.)

3. JUST AS PARTICIPATION IN NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT MAKES HAVANA TARGET OF BRICKBATS OF "MODERATES", MEMBERSHIP IN CD WOULD INCREASE SALIENCE OF CUBA'S POSITION AS ARMS CONTROL HOLDOUT AND WOULD MARKEDLY HEIGHTEN PRESSURE ON CUBA TO ADHERE TO EXISTING TREATIES, PARTICULARLY TO TLAHELCO AND NPT. CD MEMBERSHIP WOULD ALSO PLACE PRESSURE ON CUBA TO MAKE AT LEAST AS MUCH EFFORT AS SOVIETS IN ARMS CONTROL FIELD AND WOULD DISCOURAGE ANY CUBAN TEMPTATION TO PLAY ON THIRD WORLD DISSATISFACTION WITH EXISTING "DOUBLE STANDARD" FOR NUCLEAR AND NON-NUCLEAR POWERS OR WITH PACE OF BIG POWER DISARMAMENT EFFORTS (COMMON CHALLENGES TO BOTH US AND USSR IN OLD CCD).

4. IF WE CONSIDER PROBLEMS CUBA HAS POSED FOR US IN PAST WE SHOULD RECALL THAT, BESIDES OVERSEAS ACTIVISM IN LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA (WHICH ITSELF HAS INVOLVED ARMS TRANSFERS), MAJOR DANGER TO AMERICAN SECURITY DURING LAST TWO DECADES HAS BEEN CREATED BY IRRESPONSIBLE ARMS-RELATED ACTIONS INVOLVING CUBANS (CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS, CIENFUEGOS SUBMARINE BASE "MINI-CRISIS" OF 1970). AT TIME WHEN CUBA IS ABOUT TO ENTER NUCLEAR ERA (WITH FIRST OF POSSIBLY SEVERAL NUCLEAR POWER GENERATING STATIONS BEING INSTALLED ON ISLAND DURING NEXT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 HAVANA 02225 012210Z

FIVE YEAR PLAN), WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO SEEK TO INVOLVE CUBANS AS DEEPLY AS POSSIBLE IN ARMS CONTROL EFFORTS AT EARLY DATE. THIS, AT A MINIMUM, WOULD BEGIN TO CREATE PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNTERBALANCE TO FAR TOO FREQUENT TENDENCY HERE TO EXALT MILITARY APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS.

5. WE NOTE IN THIS REGARD THAT SOME LATIN AMERICANS, AT LEAST MEXICANS (SEE MEXICO 11082) AND APPARENTLY VENEZUELAN, SEE HIGH IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGING CUBANS BOTH IN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL EFFORTS. WITH THIS IN MIND, WE WONDER WHETHER US SUPPORT, IF ONLY PASSIVE, FOR CUBAN CD MEMBERSHIP WOULD NOT IN FACT BE PALATABLE TO MAJOR LATINS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WHILE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT SOVIET OR CUBAN MOTIVES OR COMMITMENT TO DISARMAMENT IN SEEKING THIS SEAT, WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO US POSITION ON THIS MATTER IN LIGHT OF COMMENTS ABOVE. LANE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEMBERSHIP, DISARMAMENT, POLICIES, COMMITTEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978HAVANA02225  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780315-0235  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** HAVANA  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t197808113/aaaadrcw.tel  
**Line Count:** 113  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 80336b59-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 191007  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1581506  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CUBAN MEMBERSHIP IN COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD)  
**TAGS:** PARM, UK, UR, CU, US, CCD  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/80336b59-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014